

Tim Roupe
610 Lou Ann Street
Salem, VA 24153-3415

October 12, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am concerned that an upcoming decision by the FCC to reform the Universal Service Fund to provide improved access to broadband in rural America may not do enough to promote the deployment of mobile wireless broadband Internet. All Americans need dependable access to broadband, both wired and wireless, to compete in this fast-changing world. But we need to make sure this reform is done right. There needs to be a fair share of funding allocated for mobile broadband expansion.

A recent CTIA study found that mobile broadband expansion can work successfully with an investment of \$1 billion per year - that's less than one-quarter of the total Connect America Fund. Yet, I understand there are proposals under consideration that would seriously underfund mobile broadband deployment with up to 93 percent of available funds being directed to wireline broadband.

Right now, mobile broadband is the fastest growing way of accessing the Internet. First responders and law enforcement depend on wireless networks to quickly pinpoint the location of a victim or a crime; farmers use mobile broadband to track shipments and complete transactions without having to leave the fields; and businesses use it to stay connected to employees and customers.

Furthermore, the economic impact of mobile broadband is astounding. A recent report by Deloitte projects the creation of 15,000 jobs for every \$1 billion invested in mobile broadband. If we invest \$1 billion per year in mobile broadband over the next 10 years, 150,000 new American jobs could be created.

Inadequate investment in mobile broadband will cost our nation jobs and compromise the ability of first responders and law enforcement to act quickly when timing is critical. If the Connect America Fund does not appropriately account for wireless, the safety and prosperity of our rural citizens will be diminished.

Rural citizens pay into the Universal Service Fund and deserve to see the benefits of mobile broadband investment. Utilizing \$1 billion out of a \$4.5 billion fund for wireless broadband is not too much to ask.

I urge you to ensure that reform of the Universal Service Fund includes a fair share for mobile wireless broadband networks. Rural America simply cannot afford to be left behind.

Sincerely,

Tim Roupe
5405805099

Ryan Badger
11541 Farmville Rd
Meherrin, VA 23954-3224

October 11, 2011

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Sincerely,

Raan E Badger
4343151081

Kyle Chavis
POB 127
Farmville, VA 23901-0127

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Sincerely,

Kyle P. Chavis
4345477000

Kathy Mayhew
2725 Wards Road
Hurt, VA 24563-3301

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Sincerely,

Kathy Mayhew
434-660-3533